

# WESTURN NEWS

Issue: 143

13th March 2012

## Western Sydney Woodturners Inc

Twin Gums Retreat, Corner Northcott Road and Diane Drive, Lalor Park

PO Box 4008, Lalor Park, NSW 2147

Web Site: [www.westernsydneywoodturners.com](http://www.westernsydneywoodturners.com)

Guild Web Site: [sydneywoodturners.com.au](http://sydneywoodturners.com.au)

**President:** Ken Vodden

**Vice-presidents:** John Lane and Paul de Belle

**Treasurer:** Paul Collins

**Grants Officer & Membership Secretary:** Raymond Saich

**Secretary & Public Officer:** Ron Devine

**Welfare Officer:** Graham Murray (0412 913 508)  
If you know that any member or their partner is not well, give Graham a call and he'll organise a card to be sent.

**Catering Officer:** Wendy Healy

**Library:** Gary Hansell

**Stores, Equipment & Maintenance:**  
Alan Phelps, Mannie Farrugia and Dave Matthews.

Please let them know if you find any problems with any of the machinery in the hall.

**Editor:** David Burns 98622732  
[ziggyzer000@hotmail.com](mailto:ziggyzer000@hotmail.com)

**Trainer:** Bob 'Santa' Hodge

## Western Sydney Woodturners Programme 2011

**Workshops:** Every **Monday** 8.30am—3.00pm \$5  
**Tuesday** from 8.30am, \$5  
**Wednesday** from 8.30am \$5  
**Thursday** from 8.30am, \$5  
**Friday Night** from 7.00pm. \$3

**Maxidays:** Third Sunday every month from 9.30am.  
There is usually a demonstration by a guest turner then Show & Tell. Lunch is provided. Cost \$6.

**Club Meeting:** The club meeting is held on the second Tuesday of the month starting at 7.00pm at Twin Gums. All members are welcome to attend.

### Coming Events:

Tuesday 13th March	Club Meeting
Sunday 18th March	Club Swap Meet
Saturday 24th March	Dutch Club

## Presidents Report

As I sit here this evening, contemplating on the things I should mention in this report, I start with what has happened today.

It started with heavy rain this morning followed by getting out of bed, checking the garage (the most important room of the house which contains all my turning gear), which was flooded! A quick suck up with the shop vac, get the toast on for breakfast and out the door for the start of the Sewing and Craft Show. Hit traffic, taking twice as long as it should of, then finalised the set up for the show before 10.00am.

With the help of a lot of good guys, the first day of the show went well, steady rather than busy and the Charity got off to a good start. More to follow next month with a comprehensive report.

Again it's a busy month, with the Sewing and Craft Show under way for four days, Linnwood House overlapping on Sunday, the Dutch club on the weekend of the 24th, club meeting on the 13th and Maxi Day on the 18th.

For Maxi day this month we have a chance to sort out our work shop and bring along anything you do not want, and sell it or swap it. This, I hope means your ideas as well, jigs you have made for a particular job or something different so others can learn from. Maybe someone will get on a lathe and do a small demo. All should be exciting.

Looking further ahead to April, we have a trip to the Blue Mountains (14th). I hope this will be well patronised as I firmly believe that inter club action is good for every one to expand their knowledge of all wood craft.

At the Easter Show this year, the Guild has asked for demonstrators to demonstrate from the 13th to the 18th. In their relaxed manner and not knowing who to send the e-mails to, it has been very hard to co-ordinate things, so if you would like to demonstrate at the show contact Mr Chris Dunn on 9607 0940, he is the Secretary to the Guild who is arranging the event. Please check the notice board for the latest times available that I have.

If you haven't been to the club for a while, you would not have heard about Guilio Marcolongo doing a workshop and demo at our club. This is happening on the 20th April (workshop) and 21st April (demo). This guy is not to be missed, he comes with a great reputation of start-

ing early morning and finishing late at night with complete expertise in turning. The club is offering a fixed price for each day so you have nothing to loose.

Our friends at Trend Timbers have their Open Day on the 20th and 21st as well. I am hoping this event will be well supported by members not going to the Main Event. (Guilio)

Just before I finish, I would like to thank all those guys who turned up for the charity bowl drive we had last Friday, to help out for our Charity Sales at the Sewing and Craft show.



Western Sydney Woodturners is a very busy club and if you can help out in any way, please put your name on the board as more helpers makes lighter work. Cheers Ken



Can you guess where we are?

### ITEMS FOR SALE

- |                        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| CLUB SHIRTS            | BADGES             |
| PEPPER GRINDERS        | SALT GRINDERS      |
| SAND PAPER             | PEN KITS           |
| PEN CASES              | PEN PARTS          |
| LETTER OPENERS         | FRICTION POLISH    |
| TRIPLE "P"             | POLISH CLOTHS      |
| TIMBER SEALER          | PERFUME APPLICATOR |
| WOOD (many varieties ) |                    |

### NEW MEMBERS

Leida Jedniuk

Bill Manners

Welcome to all our new members this month. We hope your stay is both long and rewarding.



Thanks to Michelle Rowland MP, Member for Greenway for her support which includes the printing of this newsletter.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Robert Beatty  
Emmanuel Couch  
Ann Guppy  
Michael Hughes  
Bob Jarvis  
Tom Stalley  
Dom Vaticano

Ross Bettridge  
Gregory Evans  
Alan Hegarty  
George Hulme  
Darryl Lane  
Adrian Treuren

Happy birthday to all, we hope that you had a great day with many more to come.



I am always on the look out for new articles and would appreciate any contributions from members - please remember that this is your newsletter! - editor

# Guilio Marcolongo Demonstration

20th and 21st April



I have been turning since 1995. I live in Australia at a place called Wonthaggi which is aboriginal for 'wind and rain'.

In 1997 I met Dale Nish in New Zealand at the Ottamata Experience.

With inspiration of my teacher and mentor Vic Wood and the help of Dale Nish, my woodturning life had changed forever.

I am known for my scallop pieces, mainly boxes, although I can turn my hand to most forms of woodturning.



Dog Bowl—will transform into the glider bowl



Off-centre lidded box with Paua insert



Royal Box



Emerging Box—a sphere coming out of a cube

**MAXI DAY - February**



Bob Hodge



Liam Healy



Liam Healy



Wells, Aldinger, Farrugia



Ray Smith



Lloyd Ives



Steve Hitchcock



Alan Phelps



Erich Aldinger



Erich Aldinger



Fiona Deane



Les Pritchard



Ken Vodden



Syd Churchward



Andy Tappouras



Steve Hitchcock



Manny Farrugia

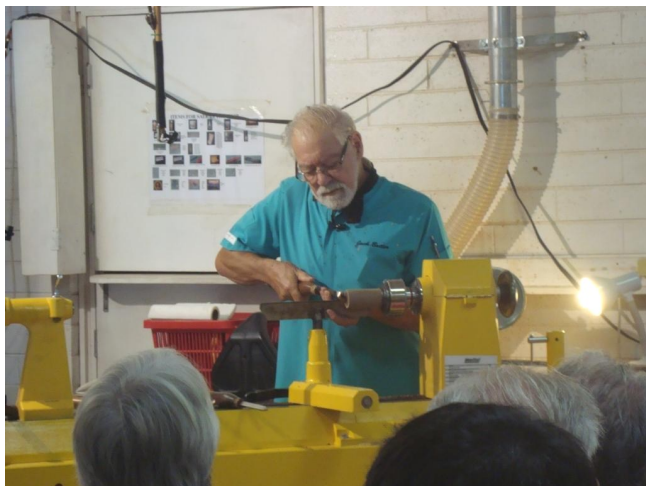


Eddie Catford

## February Maxi Day.

Today, we were entertained by a very experienced demonstrator / wood turner, Jack Butler, from the Northern Beaches (President)/ Southern club (Trainer). Having started wood turning last century (1999), with the appearance of easy, relaxed way of explaining and doing things, the day flew by.

Having started on time, Jack thought the egg came before the egg cup, so he began by turning the egg. The size being diameter x length (diameter x 1.5). The trusty skewer the main weapon used.



The egg cup followed and using mulga timber as it has a good tight grain and easy to finish, he proceeded to turn the inside (to get the right size to fit the egg he turned earlier) then the outside. The use of tools was interesting. To turn the outside he used the roughing gauge, bowl gauge and the skewer. On the inside he used the bowl gauge (outer dia to inner dia), detail gauge (inner dia to outer dia.) finishing with the scraper. Point to remember is - if the tool is sharp and the technique is right, tool selection isn't as important.

When it came to parting off, Oops! It didn't go quite to plan. This is where an egg cup quickly become a liquor glass (egg cup with a longer stem). All TURNED out good.

Third item to turn was a goblet. As Jack pointed out, there are millions of ideas on the web to have a go at. Jack did a laminated goblet with a six pointed star. By way of drawings, he described the way he got his blank, then putting the blank on the lathe, he began to turn. Knowing this had to be all very accurate, otherwise the final piece would not look right. Jack took it all in his stride, so cool, calm and collected, just like a pro!!!!

A final point is that Jack, in his finishing, used very little paper, getting a good finish from his tool. After little paper he followed by Triple P and then friction polish, both made by Alan Phelps Esq. I think Alan would agree, it's not the best finish on the market but its damn good when used right

The day continued with lunch (thanks Wendy) and show and tell which was conducted by Erich Aldinger. Thank you Erich for your expertise. The show and tell was second to none, with the selection and quality on display. The day finished a little earlier than normal but I felt it was a really good, educational day.

Two points I would like to add. They are firstly:- Jack, if you get to read this I hope I got a big enough spade. Secondly, I forgot to ask anyone to do this report, so I did it myself.

Cheers Ken

## The Seven S's (S-S-S-S-S-S-S) Of The Salad Bowl

We often wonder why some folks can sell many salad bowls, while we can't; or why some of our bowls sell and others don't. Could it be that we have violated too many of "The 7-S's of the Salad Bowl"?

The salad bowl is unique among those things that we make from wood because it is the meeting of "function" and "art" in a "useable" piece of turned wood. It is something to be used, a functional bowl whose shape and features are defined by its use. That doesn't mean that it cannot be "artistic", with the beauty of form and wood that makes it something to be admired and the topic of conversation while it is on display in the middle of a table setting.

This article is a discussion of those qualities of shape and form that make a salad bowl. Other articles on the turning and finishing of the salad bowl can be accessed from the links at the conclusion of this article.

### The Seven (7) S's:

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| <i>Shape</i>  | It looks and feels like a salad bowl should.                          |
| <i>Size</i>   | It fits the salad being served, neither too small or too large        |
| <i>Solid</i>  | NO soft or porous wood, no voids, no holes, no knots, and no patches. |
| <i>Smooth</i> | It is easily cleaned. There are no frills, no carving, no beads.      |
| <i>Stable</i> | It stays in place on a table or countertop, not easily tipped over.   |
| <i>Sight</i>  | A salad looks good in it. It is appealing and appetizing.             |
| <i>Smell</i>  | It has either a pleasant odor or none at all.                         |

People will always look at a salad bowl shape as having something in it. It doesn't matter how much it costs; it must be useable. It doesn't matter that they will never use it; they could if they ever wanted to. If it can't pass these seven (7) tests, it is "art"; and art in the shape of a salad bowl doesn't sell very well.

### **What About "Round"....**

The reader will notice that, nowhere in this discussion is the "roundness" of the salad bowl even mentioned. That is because perfection in the roundness of a salad bowl is a quality that is of concern only to the woodturner. The greater majority of the folks who are buying a wooden salad bowl will know that it is wood, and that wood will warp and move. Perfect roundness is not a factor in their purchase when the "Seven S's" are satisfied. .

### **Shape...**

This is a subjective thing, "that vision thing", that will be different for different women. Yes, women. Women buy salad bowls and they KNOW what a salad bowl should look like. Men make salad bowls, and they have no idea what a salad bowl should look like. If in doubt, ask you wife or the neighbor's wife if you don't have one.

### **Size...**

The volume of the bowl should match the amount of salad being served. It should neither be overflowing with lettuce nor appear to be empty. The "perfect" Salad Bowl is 12" diameter. Less than 10" is too small. Larger than 14" is too big for most folks. Within this range, the volume of the bowl is determined by its depth.

### **Solid...**

As woodturners, we worry about the "Food Safety" of the finish. The woman buying the salad bowl is concerned about Botulism and other things that can kill people. It doesn't matter how smooth the finish or what the finish, most folks are smart enough to know that finishes will wear off. They see defects in the wood as something that will trap food particles. Trapped food particles equate to germs, period.

A "natural edged" bowl is different. Remember that I am talking about a salad bowl. The absence of voids and other defects doesn't apply to the "natural edged" bowl. When our customers see bark or a rough edge on the

bowl, they do not see a salad bowl. They will expect it to have knots, voids, and all of those other "natural" things.

The rule here is: If it is presented as an "artistic" bowl, make sure that the figuring, holes, voids, etc, are so overwhelming that there is no doubt that this bowl is "For Display Only". If it is being sold as a salad bowl, it had better be "solid" wood.

That doesn't mean that the "Natural Edge" cannot be used as a Salad Bowl, but it will take one that is special to do that. One such bowl is shown in the gallery below.

### **Smooth...**

Keep it simple. The inside of the bowl must be a smooth form that is easily cleaned. Avoid those things that we woodturners think will make it a more attractive bowl. This means that there can be no sharp corners, beads, grooves, or carving on the INSIDE of the salad bowl or on the rim. If the lady looking at it can see the decoration as something that can trap a food particle, forget about it.

### **Stable.... (Usability)**

This one is simple; like an obedient dog, the salad bowl must SIT and STAY where it is placed. "Usability" is a concept that is too often missed by the woodturner. "Usability" means that it doesn't require an extra hand to hold it in place while tossing a salad at the counter; and that it isn't easily tipped while the salad is being served. And, should the bowl ever get tipped, it must be self-righting, and it should not spill its contents across the table.

All this means is that the woodturners' desires for thin walls, light weight, and a small foot at the base of the bowl might need some rethinking when it comes to a salad bowl.

### **Sight...**

The "presentation" of the salad at the table is everything. This is what the bowl is for. It must make a salad look appetizing. The color of the wood is important. It must not detract from the presentation. If in doubt, have your wife use the bowl for a salad and let her be the judge.

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## Smell...

"Is the wood and finish safe for food?" This is the most often asked question by the woodturner, but the least asked question by the customer. Customers are smarter than we give them credit for being. They will let their nose tell them the difference. If a bowl has an odor that is offensive, they won't buy it. The corollary is that a bowl with a pleasant or appetizing odor is an easy sale.

Any remaining odors of paint or stinking wood will kill a sale immediately. Our saying that that it is safe to use and that the odor will disappear with time won't rescue it.

Some folks have very sensitive noses. There is a thing that I call "The Cupboard Test". Place the bowl in an enclosure such as a cupboard or a large sealed box for a couple days. Then open the door or lid, and try to capture that brief subtle whiff of a smell that immediately disappears after the door has been opened. I am referring to the same thing as that brief and passing whiff of an odor that we can get when we open a refrigerator door. IF it is there, no matter how brief, somebody will be able to smell it. IF it is offensive, they won't buy it.

## Selling... (The 8th S)

Location, location, location are the three rules for selling real estate. They are the same three rules for selling salad bowls. This has nothing to do with the salad bowl itself, but where we are trying to sell it - the location of the venue, our location within the venue, and the location within our own display.

The venue is important to the salad bowl. A salad bowl is a usable item, and folks don't normally go to an art gallery to buy something that they will be using for serving food. A kitchen or gourmet shop may be a better venue for salad bowls. Craft and art fairs are better than galleries because of the more diverse group of people passing our booth.

While a craft fair is a better venue than a gallery, our location within the show is equally important. People relate to their surroundings. Being surrounded by spices, cooking utensils, china, or other food related items is a far better location than having massages, religion, outdoor furniture, garden supplies and fertilizer, photography, pottery, and objects of art around us. Being next to a display of dolls and jewelry is the worst possible location for a display of salad bowls. (Remember what I said about women being our customers). Being next to a display of home-made oils and vinegars is the perfect location for selling salad bowls.

The location of the salad bowls within our own display is equally important. Are we selling salad bowls or are we selling "art"? Mixing the two together is a mixed and confusing message because they will have different customers. If we are displaying and selling both, they must be separated. The salad bowls shouldn't become lost among the more expensive artistic items.

## Conclusion and Final Advice...

Confusing? Not really. Just a few simple concepts that we need to keep in mind if we want to make and sell turned wood salad bowls. And, maybe an explanation why that cheap wooden bowl on the shelf at Wal-Mart may be a better option than the one that we are offering.

**My advice is the final S - Simple.  
Keep it "simple" when making a salad bowl.**

And, NEVER underestimate the customers understanding of wood. Don't try to give them a "snow job" about wood and finishes. This is not their first exposure to something that is made from wood. Many of them will know more about wood than we do.

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### My Dog

*I went down to Centrelink this morning to sign up my Dog.*

*The woman said, "Dogs are not eligible to draw benefit". I explained to her that my Dog is black, unemployed, idle, can't speak English and has no clue who his dad is. She looked in her policy book to see what it takes to qualify.*

*He gets his first cheque on Friday.*

*Damn this is a great country.*



### A REMINDER ABOUT SHOP SAFETY

*We must all keep in mind the importance of SHOP SAFETY. Please THINK and ACT responsibly at all times.*

*It is up to all of us to fulfil our commitment by wearing at all times:*

- **DUST MASKS,**
- **PROTECTIVE GLASSES,**
- **SUITABLE CLOTHING,**
- **FOOTWARE ETC.**
- **EAR PROTECTION**

**IT DOES NOT HURT TO DISCUSS SAFETY WITH OTHER MEMBERS IF THEY ARE NOT DOING THE RIGHT THING.**

**REMEMBER.**

**IT IS YOUR BODY AND YOUR LIMBS.....**

**Always remember that safety starts with YOU.**

# 3 DAY SALE



EVERYTHING IS ON SALE

SALE ENDS 4:00pm Saturday

THURSDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> - SATURDAY 24<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2012

## Basato 4 WOOD BAND SAW

- 1500W / 2HP, 240V motor
- Twin 3-roller precision blade guides
- Precision rip fence with magnifier
- Patented table tilting from -17° to +45°
- Massive 250 x 375mm cutting capacity
- Two cutting speeds from 800 to 1200 m/min



**\$869** (W856)  
SAVE \$121

**schepach**

## T-380A THICKNESSER

- 1.5kW / 2hp 240V motor
- 380 x 150mm timber capacity
- 3 blade cutter head with quick action blade change
- 2 speed gearbox
- 100mm dust chute
- Solid cast iron construction
- Digital height gauge



**\$1,265** (W414)  
SAVE \$154

**HAFCO WOODMASTER**

## hms 2600ci PLANER THICKNESSER

- 3hp 240V motor
- 260 x 1040mm cast iron table
- 250 x 210mm thickness capacity
- Ø100mm dust outlet
- 3mm stock removal
- Large professional planing fence



**\$1,199** (W850)  
SAVE \$286

**schepach**



## WL-46 WOOD LATHE

- 1500W 240V brushless DC motor
- 462mm swing over bed
- 1194mm between centres
- Variable speed (100-3200rpm)
- Digital speed display
- Full cast iron head and bed
- Includes: stand, 150mm faceplate, 355mm toolrest & tailstock



**\$1,485** (W387)  
SAVE \$264

**HAFCO WOODMASTER**

## PS-3200 PANEL SAW

- 5.5KW / 7.5hp 415V main motor with 0.75kW / 1hp scoring motor
- Tilt arbor to 45°
- Ø305mm main saw blade
- Ø120mm scoring saw blade
- 1250mm ripping capacity with fence
- Digital readout for blade angle
- 77 / 52mm maximum depth of cut



**\$5,489** (W724)  
SAVE \$506

**HAFCO WOODMASTER**



Blade Guard with Built in Dust Outlet



Gas Strut Dust Hood



Heavy Duty Cast Iron Rip Fence



Flip Over Stops



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